the farmers to the extent of Rs. 60,000. The paddy lands affected by the action of the bar were situated in the five *pakuthies* represented by the Member. The measure of relief proposed by the Member was the restoration and maintenance of an old irrigation channel to keep back the salt water. The Member, in company with Mr. Stephen Joseph, Member for last year, inspected the channel. Their estimate for the re-construction of the channel, three furlongs long, was Rs. 4,500 made up of—earth-work-clearing, Rs. 1,147, laterite revetment, Rs. 2,400, earth-work cutting foundation, Rs. 80, contingencies, Rs. 363, and compensation, Rs. 500.

Dewan's reply.—The representation of the Member will be referred to the Chief Engineer for report.

75. Needs of the people of Kizhakkekallada in respect of means of communication and agriculture.

Mr. V. Padmanabha Pillai (Member, Quilon Taluk) said that, as a result of the representations of the people, culverts and *chira varampus* (bunds) were put up in the Chittumala *chira* by Government at a cost of Rs. 10,000 so that the water in the *chira* might be of use for agricultural operations. But the height of the chief culvert to the west of the *chira* should be raised by two feet, if the water should be of use. When the construction of the culverts was going on, the people spent large sums of money in cutting a canal 3 miles long to take the water to their paddy lands on either side in the hope that they would have sufficient water. But they were disappointed as the culvert referred to above was not high enough. As they were convinced of the necessity of increasing the height, they put up a mud-wall over the culvert and thus succeeded in getting water. But with the onset of the first rains, the mud wall collapsed. The Member, therefore, requested that the height of the culvert over a length of 120 feet be increased by two feet. If the cost of raising the culvert exceeded Rs. 500, the people were prepared to recoup the excess amount and they were also willing to carry out the work on contract on the estimate of the department.

There was a bund at a place called Cheekan. During the rainy season, the bund gave way causing immense damage to property and even loss of life. The distress caused was so acute that relief measures had to be taken from funds raised by the public. He knew that the D. P. W. officers, after local inspection, had prepared an estimate for cutting a canal for the surplus water. He requested that early action be taken to carry out the work.

On the road from Kundara to Chittumala temple, there was a steep descent on the western side of the temple to a distance of about half a furlong. The Member requested that the dangerous portion might be rendered useful and safe and that the Choruthil bridge recently washed by the floods be restored.

Dewan's reply.—Reports will be called for from the Chief Engineer and the Dewan Peishkar on the representation of the Member.

76. Metalling of the Anchal Punalur road and the construction of two bridges.

Mr. H. Janardana Iyer (Member, Pathanapuram Taluk) said that the Anchal-Punalur road was in a deplorable condition and that the metal used was of the poorest specimen. The toll levied at present should be suspended till the road was improved. The branch road leading from the Punalur suspension bridge to the Mahadevar temple was equally unserviceable and it abruptly ended in a channel in front of the temple. The road should be repaired thoroughly with a bridge over the channel. A bridge should also be provided over the streamlet crossing the Kadakkal-Changamanad road branching from Ayirur-Kulathupuzha road from the Anchal Proverthi Cutcherry.

Dewan's reply.—An estimate for Rs. 3,590 has been sanctioned for the repair of the bad portions of the Anchal-Punalur road. The Executive Engineer reports that the worst portions of the road have been taken up. The question of bridge will receive attention in connection with the new road under contemplation from Kunnicode to Anchal market, as also the bridge near the temple.

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly